

8011-01p SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission Office of FOIA Services 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549-2736

Extension: Rule 17f-1(g)

SEC File No. 270-30, OMB Control No. 3235-0290

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 ("PRA") (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 17f-1(g) (17 CFR 240.17f-1(g)), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Paragraph (g) of Rule 17f-1 requires that all reporting institutions (i.e., every national securities exchange, member thereof, registered securities association, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, registered transfer agent, registered clearing agency, participant therein, member of the Federal Reserve System and bank insured by the FDIC) maintain and preserve a number of documents related to their participation in the Lost and Stolen Securities Program ("Program") under Rule 17f-1. The following documents must be kept in an easily accessible place for three years, according to paragraph (g): (1) copies of all reports of theft or loss (Form X-17F-1A) filed with the Commission's designee: (2) all agreements between reporting institutions regarding registration in the Program or other aspects of Rule 17f-1; and (3) all

confirmations or other information received from the Commission or its designee as a result of inquiry.

Reporting institutions utilize these records and reports (a) to report missing, lost, stolen or counterfeit securities to the database, (b) to confirm inquiry of the database, and (c) to demonstrate compliance with Rule 17f-1. The Commission and the reporting institutions' examining authorities utilize these records to monitor the incidence of thefts and losses incurred by reporting institutions and to determine compliance with Rule 17f-1. If such records were not retained by reporting institutions, compliance with Rule 17f-1 could not be monitored effectively.

The Commission estimates that there are approximately 10,018 reporting institutions (respondents) and, on average, each respondent would need to retain 33 records annually, with each retention requiring approximately 1 minute (a total of 33 minutes or 0.5511 hours per respondent per year). Thus, the total estimated annual time burden for all respondents is 5,521 hours ( $10,018 \times 0.5511$  hours = 5,521). Assuming an average hourly cost for clerical work of \$50.00, the average total yearly record retention internal cost of compliance for each respondent would be \$27.56 (\$50 x 0.5511 hours). Based on these estimates, the total annual internal compliance cost for the estimated 10,018 reporting institutions would be approximately \$276,096 ( $10,018 \times $27.56$ ).

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection

of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or

other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and

suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a

collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control

number.

Please direct your written comments to: Charles Riddle, Acting Director/Chief

Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Candace Kenner, 100 F Street,

NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an e-mail to: PRA\_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Jill M. Peterson **Assistant Secretary** 

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